

KARIONG PUBLIC SCHOOL

View to the Future

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No 35

Friday, 19 November 2010

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Monday	22 November	RAW Art Stage 1
Thursday	25 November	Yr 5 Leadership Nominations Close
Thursday	25 November	Yr 6 Sponge Throwing Fundraiser
Friday	26 November	Value of the Month Presentation -Integrity
Friday	26 November	Stage 3 Out of School Sport
Monday-Thursday	29Nov - 2 December	Yr 5 Candidates Present Speeches
Monday	29 November	3C & 3L Copacabana Excursion

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parent/Caregivers

There has been some recent publicity given to "new" research allegedly demonstrating that reduced class sizes don't make a difference to the quality of student learning. This is one of those stories that gets recycled every three or four years and it is in part true, but only in part.

A huge meta-research project by Prof. John Hattie (University of Auckland) and associates studied data from literally thousands of studies into effective teaching and learning. They found that the most important factor by far was the quality of teaching in the class. It was more important than the size of the class, more important than socioeconomic background of children or the level of funding in the school. No surprises there. However the finding that class size is not the dominant factor does not mean that it is not an important one, particularly in schools that do not select their students.

On the television news this week I saw a Principal from a private school explaining that her school was getting outstanding results despite having class sizes somewhat larger than those in our Government schools. She neglected to also explain that her school, like many others, has an entrance test to screen out children with learning or behavioural problems. She also forgot to mention that with fees at over \$5,000 per year for Primary children they also screen out families that are struggling financially.

The reason that our smaller class sizes help improve student learning outcomes is that we take all comers and we do our very best to help them succeed. Some children take more teacher time and attention than others and the simple fact is that the children who demand considerable extra time almost invariably are in Government schools.

There is data coming through now that irrefutably demonstrates that class size makes a difference. It's in NAPLAN. While the numbers from NAPLAN are questionable in small to medium schools they are very useful for looking at trends across a large number of students. Like all of NSW compared to all of Australia. NSW Year 3 results are trending upwards in a most pleasing manner and that trend is reflecting the relatively recent class size reductions in Years K-2. Why is NSW doing better than other states with larger classes? It isn't a difficult question really.

As to planning for 2011 I'd like to add another appeal to parents to let us know if you are going to be leaving us at the end of the year or if you are bringing in new enrolments that we have not heard about. I am trying to set out our class structure for 2011 before the children come back so that they can go straight into their new classes from day one. If we get significant unexpected new enrolments or departures all this work will have to be redone in 2011 resulting in a disruption and delay.

Ivan Pagett
Principal



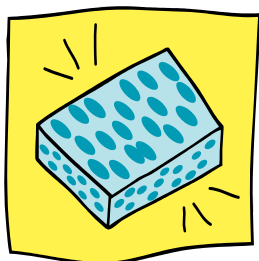
PRINCIPAL'S GOLD BOOK

James, Harry, Jazmine and Jessica

RELIEVING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

STUDENT ELECTIONS FOR 2011 (YEAR 5 STUDENTS ONLY)

The process for electing our school officials for 2011 has commenced. All Year 5 students who have an excellent behaviour record are able to seek election. It has been great to see so many students seeking nominations, all able to explain why they would make a great student leader. **Nominations close on Thursday 25th November 2010.**



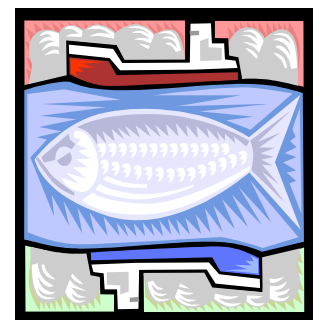
YEAR 6 SPONGE THROWING

Our Year 6 students will hold a sponge throwing fundraiser on **Thursday 25th November at lunch. Students will be able to throw a sponge for a price...**

50 cents to throw a sponge at a student and \$1 to throw a sponge at a teacher. Sounds like fun!

RAW ART

Year 1 and 2 students are participating in RAW Art lessons this week and next. The students have a wonderful opportunity to be creative. Year 1 students will be making Tribal Masks and Year 2 will be creating Flippin' Fish with a guest artist teaching them. The lessons cost \$7 per student and they will get to keep their fantastic artwork or maybe give them to family members as a Christmas present. I look forward to viewing the finished artworks.



Paula Harmer-Watkins
Relieving Deputy Principal

ANNUAL PRESENTATION CEREMONIES

This year all of our Annual Presentation Ceremonies will be held during the day. This gives all students a chance to be a part of the ceremonies and celebrate each others' success. All students K-2 receive a certificate at each grades presentation ceremony. In Years 3-6 there are book prizes and certificates for those students who have been identified by staff as having had a successful academic year.



The dates and times are as follows;

Kindergarten Presentation Ceremony – Friday 10th December 2010 at 9.30am

Year 1 Presentation Ceremony – Monday 6th December 2010 at 9.15am

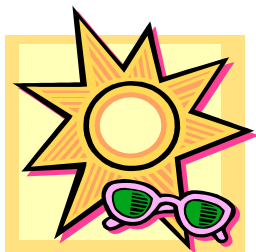
Year 2 Presentation Ceremony – Monday 6th December 2010 at 11.45am

Stage 2 (Yrs 3 and 4) Presentation Ceremony–Tuesday 7th December 2010 at 9.15am

Stage 3 (Yrs 5 and 6) Presentation Ceremony – Monday 13th December 2010 at 9.15am

Paula Harmer-Watkins
Relieving Deputy Principal

STUDENT BANKING WINNERS- Jenna and Lachlan



SUN SAFETY

The incidence of skin cancer in Australia is a matter of concern for the whole community, including schools. Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world with one in two Australians developing some form of skin cancer during their lifetime.

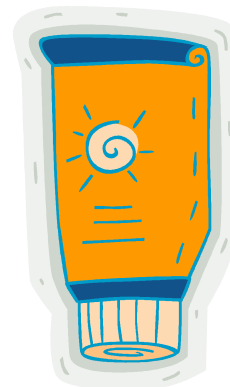
Skin Damage In Childhood

Much of the sun exposure that causes skin damage occurs during childhood and adolescence. By the age of 15 many children have developed irreversible skin damage from exposure to the sun.

Stay In The Shade

Students are encouraged to protect their skin by:

- reducing their exposure to the sun, wherever possible
- wearing broad-brimmed hats in the playground to protect the face, neck and ears, and playing in shaded areas. Some primary schools have adopted a 'No hat, play in the shade' policy for recess and lunchtimes
- wearing clothing (preferably of closely woven fabric) with collars and long sleeves to provide maximum sun protection
- remaining in the shade whenever possible, particularly during peak UVR times
- participating in sun protection activities
- using 30+ broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen as an adjunct to other sun protection measures.





BASKETBALL GALA DAY

Kariong Public School was represented at the Graham Memorial Basketball Gala Day by the following players:

BOYS TEAM

Daniel
Ryan
Harry
James
Jessi
Jordan
Lachlan

GIRLS TEAM

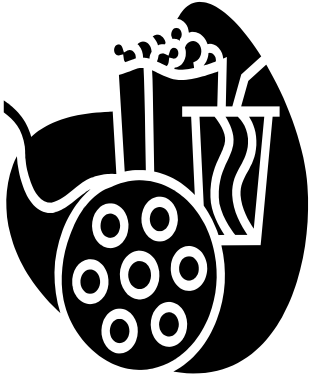
Molly
Emma
Jennifer
Maddy
Madison
Chloe
Neivh

I had the pleasure of accompanying these students on Thursday to the Basketball Gala Day. Both our boys and girls teams worked extremely hard in every game and showed great improvement throughout the day. Each team played four games and with the day being very warm it was very tiring on the players. To our credit, even though we were out played on the day we never gave up challenging every pass and attempted shot by the opposition right up until the final siren.

All the students had a fantastic attitude and were given complements on their sportsmanship and behaviour by teachers and coaches of many of the teams competing in the tournament. Our coach, Mrs Higgins, the parents who helped out and I were very proud. Well done Kariong!
Mrs Telfer.

BOOK CLUB

Book Club orders must be returned to your class teacher by Monday 22 November 2010. LATE ORDERS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED. Thank you.

END OF YEAR MOVIE DAYS

COMING UP ARE THE END OF YEAR MOVIE DAYS.

Grades K- 2 will be going to the movies at Greater Union Tuggerah on Monday 13th December. The cost will be \$27 this includes entry to movie, popcorn, drink and bus fare.

Grades 3-5 will be going to the movies at Greater Union Tuggerah on Tuesday 14th December. The cost will be \$27 this includes entry to movie, popcorn, drink and bus fare.

A permission note and payment slip will be sent home early next week.

Kerry Rayner Excursion organiser